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MEXICO REPORTEDLY TO WITHDRAW AMBASSADOR

PY212224 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2145 GMT 21 Feb 80 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aries, 21 Feb (NA)--The Mexican Government has decided to withdraw its ambassador in Buenos Aires, Jose Antonio Lara Villarreal, in a move obviously aimed at demonstrating its displeasure at the Argentine Government's continous refusal to grant safe-conducts to two well-known Argentine Peronists who have been under asylum at the Mexican Embassy for the past 4 years.

This information was obtained from very reliable diplomatic sources, who added that the Mexican Ambassador will leave the country next week "for an indefinite period."

They indicated that the Mexican consul general, Raul Lopezlira, would also leave Argentina and that the embassy would be left in the hands of the embassy secretary, Caamano Mendoza, who was recently transferred to Buenos Aires from Montevideo, where he had held a diplomatic position.

Hector Pedro Campora and Juan Manuel Abal Medina have been under asylum at the Mexican Embassy in Buenos Aires since 13 April 1976, when they sought refuge there together with the father of the former, ex-President Hector Jose Campora.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES REPORT

PY220108 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2315 GMT 21 Feb 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Feb (TELAM)--The Argentine Foreign Ministry has categorically denied the press report released here tonight that the Mexican Government would not name a new ambassador to Buenos Aires because of the Argentine Government's delay in granting a safe-conduct to the refugees in the Mexican Embassy in this city.

The press report came about as a result of a meeting between Foreign Minister Carlos W. Pastor and Mexican Ambassador Jose Antonio Villarreal during which Villarreal's return to his country at the end of this month upon the completion of his mission in Argentina was discussed.

The Foreign Ministry reported that it did not know the origin of the press report, since the ministry has been improved of Lara Villarreal's impending return to his country, and that the request for approval of the new ambassador who is going to succeed him is expected in accordance with diplomatic procedure.

REBEL GENERAL RELEASED AFTER 5 MONTHS OF ARREST

PY220038 Paris AFP in Spanish 2045 GMT 21 Fev 80 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 21 Feb (AFP)-- Gen Luciano Menendez, who last September led a thwarted military uprising, was released today after almost 5 months of arrest. He avoided any contact with the press.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO UK--London, 15 Feb(TELAM)--Carlos Ortiz de Rosas, the new Argentine ambassador to Great Britain, presented his credentials to Queen Elizabeth today. [Buneos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1850 GMT 15 Geb 80 PY]

PRC EXPERTS TO INSPECT MILITARY HARDWARE

PY211520 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Feb 80 p 13 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo--Two new Brazilian-made pieces of military equipment will be shown to members of the PRC military experts mission which will visit Brazil next month, namely, the EMB-312 basic military training plane manufactured by the Brazilian Aeronautics Company [EMBRAER] and the Sucuri antitank armored vehicle manufactured by the Specialized Engineers Corporation [ENGESA].

The PRC delegation will visit the EMBRAER and ENGESA plants located in Sao Jose dos Campos in the first week of March. Although PRC Ambassador Dequn Zhang has said that the mission will not close any deals, the visit certainly has a commercial nature, and negotiations could be initiated.

The PRC delegation will visit the EMBRAER plant where, in addition to inspecting products which are already well known in the international market, such as the EMB-110 Bandeirantes, it will obtain information on company's future projects. One of them is the EMB-120 Brasilia, a pressurized plane for 30 passengers, which will be ready to fly in 1983; and another is the EMB-312, the first turboprop plane specifically designed for military training.

At the ENGESA plant, in addition to the Cascavel, Urutu and Jararaca armored vehicles, which are also well known in the international market, the PRC delegation will inspect the new Brazilian-made Sucuri armored vehicle, a car which can go as fast as 110 km per hour, is equipped with a 300-hp Detroit diesel engine, has 6-wheel drive, can climb 65-percent slopes, and is armed with a 105-mm cannon to engage in combat with larger armored cars.

COMMENTATOR EXPLAINS PRC'S INTEREST IN INCREASING TRADE

PY210230 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Feb 80 p 17 PY

[By Federico Heller]

[Text] We have often drawn the attention of our readers to the great economic and political interest displayed by the PRC in increasing trade and even cultural exchange with Brazil. This interest can be partly attributed to the efforts made by the Brazilian Government and businessmen to provide their independence and preclude, in advance, any attempts at "persuasion" and pressure.

We want to sell--and sell a great deal--in return for payment in freely convertible currencies, without any political connotation. At the same time, the purchasing power of Brazil's domestic markets has tended to increase, thus awakening the interest of the Chinese Government, which wants high-level technical cooperation.

At this point, most of the interest of the Chinese Government is aimed at Brazil's military industry, and despite the bitter international competition in this field, we managed to sell last year all kinds of Brazilian-made weapons worth a sizable $800 million. We have among our clients the PRC, the Soviet Union, Latin America, Africa, and Asia. The PRC is interested not only in purchasing arms but also in obtaining Brazilian participation in the construction of a gigantic hydroelectric dam on the Chang Jiang River.

From the point of view of the Chinese, there are several interesting reasons for maintaining technical and even financial cooperation with Brazil:

1. The intention of the Brazilian Government and enterprises to fulfill contracts regardless of changes in the economic, political and military leadership of the world.

2. Brazilian technological and financial independence from pressures stemming from changes in the power balance between the main areas of the world.

3. The assurance that we will not be prepared to break contracts for more attractive and enticing offers.

The Brazilian military industry has attained a high technological level thanks to technical cooperation with counterpart enterprises in the United States, Europe and Asia, and this has allowed it to cut down expenses and, in some special cases, to sell on credit. We believe it appropriate to point out that our arms sales have no second political meaning and merely seek to improve our trade balance and the balance of payments. We sell arms only to obtain freely convertible foreign currencies such as U.S. dollars, Swiss francs and Swedish kroner.

Finally, one of our best opportunities is to exchange the most modern technology for oil. The high quality of our military industry, together with the lack of any sort of ideological bias, will help to increase and stimulate our prospects for exporting materiel even to those countries whose technology is among the best in the world.

NUCLEAR COMMISSION HEAD DENIES INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES

PY211423 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 21 Feb 80 PY

[Text] The president of the National Nuclear Energy Commission affirmed today that the nuclear agreement with the FRG is not subject to any interruption or international pressures. Gervasio de Carvalho made the affirmation commenting on reports that France and the FRG have decided not to export so-called sensitive technology at the nuclear fuel cycle evaluation conference being held in Vienna. He will attend the final session of the conference on 25 February.

According to a Brazilian Foreign Ministry adviser, the Brazilian Government is not concerned with the positions announced at the nuclear fuel cycle evaluation conference, not even with the possibility of a rigid control over the supply of nuclear fuel and the suspension of nuclear technology transfer to Third World countries. The adviser said that the information coming from Vienna is not correct and, therefore, poses no threat for the Brazilian nuclear policy. He explained that the conference is only investigating some technical aspects regarding the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the scientific field, without any political implications.

RUMORS CIRCULATE ON NUCLEAR PROGRAM DEACTIVATION

PY211425 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 21 Feb 80 PY

[Text] The minister cannot comment on rumors. With this statement, the advisers of Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals refused to comment on rumors that the Brazilian nuclear program could be deactivated because the FRG refused to supply the technology which would provide complete control over the nuclear cycle, including the manufacture of the atomic bomb.

The same sources indicated that during a routine meeting with President Figueiredo they only discussed the appointment of (Ivano Humbert Marquese) as the new director of the National Nuclear Energy Commission.

JURIST CALLS UN HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT 'ILLEGAL'

PY211910 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 21 Feb 80 PY

[Text] Jurist Mario Calderon, Foreign Ministry Human Rights expert, has noted that Chile will not recognize any procedure approved by the UN Human Rights Commission, since it would be an illegal, discriminatory and clearly politically interventionist action.

Calderon noted that the document that has already been disclosed at the UN headquarters in Geneva is more negative and biased than other previous reports submitted to the United Nations by the enemies of our fatherland. In this regard all legal and illegal procedures have been used to cause political damage to the Chilean Government. This was the objective of Austrian Felix Ermacora, the only human rights expert who stayed in Chile from the [UN human rights] work group. The other two experts, a Colombian and a Jordanian, withdrew from the group because they disagreed with the vengeful procedures used against our country. Chile will not allow the commission to continue handling the situation in our country in a selective manner at a time when thousands of persons are being exterminated for political reasons in Cambodia, Ethiopia, and Afghanistan.

Jurist Mario Calderon noted that behind all this in the United Nations is the Kremlin's imperialistic power. He added that through judicial procedures Chile will disclose all that lies behind this maneuver that brings charges against the fatherland but does not allow a just and proper defense.

The Chilean issue will be discussed either Monday or Tuesday at the UN human rights headquarters in Geneva. Calderon noted, however, that everything is already politically fixed, and that the report against Chile was drafted even before charges were heard or the Chilean delegation gave its explanations. Since it is all an illegal maneuver, the procedures to be followed have little importance. For the United Nations, Chile continues to be the only country in the world that violates human rights.

FOREIGN MINISTRY IS INVESTIGATING MURDER CHARGES

PY202200 Paris AFP in Spanish 2020 GMT 20 Feb 80 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 29 Feb (AFP)--It was reported here today that the Chilean Foreign Ministry has begun to investigate the authenticity of an accusation that Chilean intelligence services were responsible for the murder of missing political prisoners. A government spokesman said, however, that this accusation "is a new demonstration of a Marxist campaign" against Gen Augusto Pinochet's regime.

According to a report submitted to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva last Tuesday, the Chilean National Intelligence Department (DINA) "ordered the murder of certain prisoners regarded as missing." The study was prepared by Austrian Jurist Felix Ermacora, who visited Chile in 1978 as member of a group investigating the human rights situation.

Official spokesmen said today that "the Foreign Ministry is checking the authenticity of this report." It was indicated that acting Foreign Minister Enrique Valdes had met with legal advisers, but there will not be any announcement until "an overall picture of the facts" is at hand.

The document submitted in Geneva is based on statements by a witness who is said to have belonged to the DINA.

OLYMPIC COMMITTEE REASSERTS BOYCOTT OF MOSCOW GAMES

PY211820 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 21 Feb 80 PY

[Text] The Chilean Olympic committee board today issued a 4-point communique in which it states that (Alejandro Rivera Vascur) attended the International Olympic Committee meeting recently held in the United States as a member of the International Olympic Committee and not as a representative of the Chilean Olympic Committee.

The communique notes that, to avoid any further confusion, the Chilean Olympic Committee reasserts its withdrawal from the Olympic Games to be held in Moscow because of the existing atmosphere in the host country, which violated Olympic principles when it perpetrated an aggression against a member country of the International Olympic Committee. Moscow, therefore, does not guarantee the free and peaceful coexistence of the athletes attending the games.

GOVERNMENT NOT SURPRISED BY STATEMENT IN IZVESTIYA

PY210158 Paris AFP in Spanish 2123 GMT 20 Feb 80 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 20 Feb (AFP)--The Chilean military government received without surprise today the Soviet statement that Afghanistan will not become "another Chile."

"The Soviet Union has not accepted the liberation that has taken place in our country, therefore it will continue to attack us," said Jovino Novoa, government secretary general.

Vikentiy Matveyev, political observer of the Moscow newspaper IZVESTIYA, said in Helsinki last Tuesday that Soviet troops will remain in Afghanistan until it is guaranteed that this country "will not become another Chile."

Matveyev was alluding to the military coup which overthrew the civilian government of Socialist President Salvador Allende more than 6 years ago.

Novoa accused the Soviet Union of maintaining a constant international campaign against the government of Augusto Pinochet and of trying to create problems in Chile.

In this regard, Novoa mentioned the recent underground meeting held by the dissolved Socialist Party and the actions of "some leftist politicians" who oppose the military regime.

SOMOZISTS ARRIVE AFTER OBTAINING POLITICAL ASYLUM

PY220032 Paris AFP in Spanish 2142 GMT 21 Feb 80 PY

[Text] Santiago, 21 Feb (AFP)--Four former supporters of ousted Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza arrived in Santiago today after being granted political asylum, according to information released here today. The four had spent 6 months at the Chilean Embassy in Managua, where they had sought refuge when the Nicaraguan revolutionary junta took over.

The four persons who have been granted asylum are: Deputy Interior Minister Adolfo Munoz Otero, Capt Jose Narvaez Lobo of the disbanded national guard, Cadel Hector Lacalle Morales, also of the national guard, and Prof Cesar Martinez Silva.

PRESIDENT URGES CLOSER TIES AMONG ANDEAN COUNTRIES

PA2'2044 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay today urged the Andean Pact countries to strengthen their integration process in view of the threats unleashed by international passions.

Turbay said that the Andean Pact is eloquent evidence of what five countries can do by placing their determination at the service of democracy. He spoke at Narino Palace upon receiving the decoration of merit from the Ecuadorean Government. He said that at this moment, when the world feels immersed in the turmoil of unleashed international passions and when the old continent has begun to fear a disruption of peace, the Andean Pact countries are more obliged than ever to strengthen their unity and ties and to review international situations.

Turbay praised his Ecuadorean colleague Jaime Roldos and said that the people did not make a mistake when they chose him to direct their destiny. He added that we see in him sufficient guarantee not only of cordiality but of the entire policy shaped by the American legal system, built on principles which are agreeable to peoples with a juridical vocation like ours.

U.S. REQUEST FOR BOYCOTT AGAINST USSR REJECTED

PA212110 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The government today rejected the U.S. political request that Colombia join the food boycott against the Soviet Union. Agriculture and Livestock Minister German Bula Hoyos said Colombia is sovereign both economically and politically.

Bula said that, based on such sovereignty, routine talks are being held with the Soviets to conclude the sale of thousands of tons of Colombian beef to the USSR.

We are holding quiet, low-key negotiations, Bula said. He declined to elaborate on the U.S. Government request that Colombia abstain from selling beef to the Soviet Union and reasserted Colombia's sovereignty regarding this matter.

Talks With Soviets Begin

PA212111 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Colombian and Soviet governments opened talks today for the sale of 15,000 tons of frozen beef to the Soviet Union.

Agriculture and Livestock Minister German Bula Hoyos told Radio Cadena Nacional that the negotiations with the USSR are dependent, first, on an agreement on prices and, in second, on a renewal of the agreement with Venezuela.

According to Soviet Embassy sources, the USSR has offered to pay $2,500 per ton of beef. However, the Colombian Government has not yet given an answer. The negotiators on Colombia's side are Minister Bula, Luis Nicollela, manager of the Ingral freezing plant, and Comegan Manager Jose Maria Castro Palmera.

PROSPECTS OF BEEF TRADE WITH VENEZUELA TURN DIM

PA212034 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--Colombia's hopes to resume its beef trade with Venezuela turned him today when the Venezuelan Cattlemen's Federation emphatically rejected the possibility of reactivating an agreement which has been suspended for 2 years.

According to reports from Caracas, Rafael Marcial Garmendia, president of the Venezuelan Cattlemen's Federation, cautioned today that the outbreak of hoof-and-mouth disease and tuberculosis among Colombian animals poses a danger to Venezuela's cattle industry if the agreement with Colombia is resumed.

In this connection, Raul Londono, livestock adviser of the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry, has told Radio Cadena Nacional that the Venezuelan reaction stems from the negative propaganda the very same Colombian cattlemen have carried out, and that the consequences are unforeseeable because the leaders of the Venezuelan cattle industry have true power and clout.

A delegation of livestock experts of the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry left today for Caracas in a bid to obtain a reactivation of the cattle agreement and to prove to the Venezuelans that the sanitary conditions of Colombian animals are good enough to finalize the desired commercial transactions, Londono noted.

SAN ANDRES DEMONSTRATORS REJECT NICARAGUAN CLAIMS

PA161321 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2312 GMT 15 Feb 80 PA

[Text] San Andres Island, Colombia, 15 Feb (EFE)--Some 20,000 persons demonstrated here today to reject the Nicaraguan claim to sovereignty over these islands that have been Colombian territory since Spanish colonial days.

The demonstrators carried posters and Colombian flags and shouted, "viva San Andres and Providencia, Colombian territory!" There were no incidents with the police. Businesses and state offices closed their doors in the afternoon, and automobiles sounded their horns for more than 3 hours.

Speakers called for defense of the sovereignty of the islands and swore to defend the territory with their lives. There were no incidents, and even Nicaraguans who had left their country joined the huge demonstration in which civilians and state officials participated.

The march followed Nicaraguan claims aimed at obtaining sovereignty over these islands on the basis of a treaty signed between Nicaragua and Colombia in 1928.

ROLDOS COMMENTS ON EXECUTIVE-LEGISLATIVE CONFLICT

PA211532 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] In an interview granted to the newspaper EL NACIONAL of Caracas, Venezuela, President Jaime Roldos has described the conflict between the legislative and executive branches as a logical disagreement between two views on the historic moments of the Ecuadorean political process.

In his comments to EL NACIONAL correspondent Augusto Montesfino, the Ecuadorean president reiterated the principles of the code of conduct proposed to the Andean group for gradual disarmament in the region. He also expressed support for the unification of petroleum prices.

Questioned about the power struggle between himself and the president of the National Chamber of Representatives, Roldos said it must be solved within the democratic and constitutional framework. He indicated that what occurred during the first few months of his administration was a logical disagreement between two views at a historic moment of the Ecuadorean political process. This situation was the result of internal conflicts in the Concentration of Popular Forces, the party to which he belongs.

The president said that during the past few weeks there has been a need for a clear consensus among a considerable sector of the legislature because we cannot simplify the conflict by calling it a disagreement between two persons, but between two styles of politics, two ways of viewing the changes Ecuador demands. My administration is firmly determined to implement the changes I promised during my campaign, Roldos added.

BUCARAM REPORTEDLY UNDERGOES 'URGENT' SURGERY

PA220234 Paris AFP in Spanish 0148 GMT 22 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 21 Feb (AFP)--Assad Bucaram, Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP] leader, today underwent urgent surgery at Alcivar clinic, according to reliable sources.

Bucaram, who is president of the National Chamber of Representatives, today felt very tired in Quito and had to go to Guayaquil where his family lives.

Bucaram arrived at 1900 tonight and boarded a vehicle, with relatives and CFP supporters, and went directly to the clinic. He underwent several tests before undergoing surgery.

Clinic spokesmen maintained silence on his illness. Rumors had it that he had suffered an acute appendicitis with symptoms of peritonitis.

MINISTER ANNOUNCES INCREASE IN OIL RESERVES

PA210402 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Natural Resources and Energy Minister Jose Corsino Cardenas has stated that the country's oil reserves increased by 176 million barrels during the period December-February. This is a 19-percent increase.

The minister said he is optimistic about the activities being carried out by the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation to increase crude oil reserves. He said that by 1985 the present reserves will have doubled.

EL COLORADO ASSESSES AMBASSADOR WHITE'S PERFORMANCE

PY2107042 Asuncion EL COLORADO in Spanish 2d week of February 80 p 9 PY

[Commentary: "Goodbye, Mr White!"]

[Text] Mr White's diplomatic mission in Paraguay ended along with the seventies, and he withdrew at the beginning of the eighties. He served as U.S. ambassador for just 2 years, but in that time he got involved in episodes full of incidental controversies and heated polemics whose effects will probably endure until his successor manages to make us forget them. This was the reason for his PROMOTION to the post of ambassador to El Salvador, where this JUMP AHEAD in his career--as an American historian said--will be marked by the SCARES which he undoubtedly will experience every day in that convulsed country, where his presence is more necessary than ever, not only to GUIDE El Salvador's revolutionary junta, but also to preserve the legitimate interests of the United States. In this worthwhile and difficult task we honestly wish Mr White the success he was unable to attain in our country.

At the beginning of this commentary we spoke of decades and not of years because during the decade we got to know a number of U.S. ambassadors who came here, observed, worked and mingled with the official, political, diplomatic, social and cultural circles of the country and left with the sense of a job well done and surrounded by the affection, the regard and even the admiration of those who had the pleasure of knowing them. It would suffice to mention White's predecessor, George W. Landau, who was also his antithesis and this is why White's new DIPLOMATIC STYLE--which caused his PROMOTION into El Salvador's volcano--was so shocking to our idiosyncrasy.

Mr White, who is an exceptional and intelligent diplomat, knew very well that he had not awakened any enthusiasm among us, only in the minute world of the mini-opposition. Thus, when he prepared the agenda for Mr Eaton, deputy assistant secretary inter-American affairs of the State Department, he took special care to include a working luncheon with the members of the national accord, providing--on the basis of his own friendly preferences--four seats for the Authentic Radicals and only two each for their equals and associates, the Febreristas and the Christian Democrats. In addition, he accepted Mrs De Lara Castro's invitation to attend the only RECEPTION [vino de honor] arranged to bid him farewell, since he could hardly miss it, being the acknowledged expert in human rights. He hardly concerned himself with the opposition recognized by the JEC [Central Electoral Board] and represented in both chambers of the Congress, and only as a formality invited a few of its members to the reception in honor of Mr Eaton, an occasion of which he took advantage to bid farewell socially to some government officials and members of the diplomatic corps, but especially to the opposition as a whole. The Radical Liberal and Liberal leaders felt snubbed and decided to protest their exclusion from the working luncheon. However, they mistakenly protested to Mr Eaton--who, upon his arrival, had found ceremonies already prepared and invitations issued--and not to Mr White, who had arranged the agenda.

In any case, Mr White is gone! He left in a simple and austere manner in the midst of general indifference, that is, without saying goodbye as other ambassadors have done and as did George Landau, who said farewell to Paraguay fully satisfied and happy at having attained a degree of success which no other U.S. ambassador had ever attained and surrounded by the affection, the friendship and the regard of all social and political circles of the country, including the mini-opposition which monopolized Mr White's attention and concern for 2 years. This is why we feel nothing in connection with his departure. We owe him so little! A mere acquaintance of a formal social or diplomatic nature and a marked decline in the formerly exceptionally friendly relations between our two countries. Nevertheless, and although he did not care to say goodbye to us, we want to tell him politely: Goodbye, Mr White, and better luck in El Salvador!

HOY REPORTS RUMOR ON NAMING OF NEW ENVOY

PY151447 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 15 Feb 80 p 8 PY

[From the "Between the Lines"]

[Text] "With regard to the appointment of the new U.S. ambassador to Paraguay, no contacts have been made at the official level as yet. However, it is rumored among persons close to the State Department in Washington that the appointee will be somebody very close to the current president, someone who has already held posts in American countries, one of which was Ecuador. It would seem that he is of Hispanic descent, but please do not say anything." (This curious information was given by a person very close to the [U.S.] Embassy, who whispered it without realizing that there were many people close by...")

BRIEFS

NEW CHILEAN AMBASSADOR--Gen Ernesto Carlos Forestier Haensgen yesterday presented his credentials as new Chilean ambassador to Paraguay. During the ceremony, the new Chilean ambassador conveyed to President Alfredo Stroessner greetings from President Augusto Pinochet and expressed best wishes for ever closer relations between the two countries. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 21 Feb 80 p 12 PY]

AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS--Juan Alberto Llanes, Paraguayan ambassador to Honduras, presented his credentials to President Policarpo Paz Garcia on 13 February. [Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 19 Feb 80 p 6 PY]

TALKS CONTINUE WITH CUBA ON EXIST PERMITS, ASYLUM

PA192140 Paris AFP in Spanish 1912 GMT 19 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Lima, 18 Feb (AFP)--Jaime Caceres, director of political affairs of the Peruvian Foreign Ministry, today returned to Havana. He had departed from there on Thursday.

The diplomat is negotiating with Cuban authorities for permits for 13 Cubans, including a policeman, who are in asylum at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana, to leave the country.

Nothing has been learned about the progress of the talks and the ambassador today refused to comment, but given the good relations existing between the two countries, it is taken for granted that the talks are proceeding satisfactorily.

Edgardo de Habich, Peruvian ambassador to Cuba, was recalled to Lima recently to explain a statement he made on the asylum issue which the Peruvian Foreign Ministry considered inappropriate.

JOURNALIST ZIMMERMANN WILL REMAIN IN PRISON

PA170037 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0357 GMT 16 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Lima, 15 Feb (EFE)--The second judicial police zone today declared Augusto Zimmermann, former press secretary of the late President Gen Juan Velasco Alvarado, had definitely been arrested. The police court has decided that there is "sufficient merit" to try Zimmermann on the charges of insulting the nation and the national emblems and insignias and inciting mutiny.

Zimmermann manages the weekly magazine KAUSACHUM, which has for several months supported the grievances and demands of the Peruvian Civil Guard. He was arrested on 8 February after approximately 600 uniformed policemen in Cusco, 1,000 km southeast of Lima, rebelled. Kausachum has protested the arrest of its director, stating that he is the first civilian arrested under the "draconian" military code of justice instead of the press law now in force.

Several publications of different political views have also denounced Zimmermann's arbitrary arrest, after stating their differences with Zimmermann.

Zimmermann had criticized the director of the Civil Guard, Gen Humberto Passano and published the charges of several policemen of supposed abuses or corruption of high-ranking Civil Guard chiefs.

LEFTIST UNITY FRONT SPLITS OVER CANDIDATE LISTS

PY221440 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Feb 80 PY

[Text] The announced leftist unity has been broken through the final withdrawal of the Popular Labor, Peasant and Student Front [FOCEP], headed by Genaro Ledesma Izquieta, only Jorge del Prado's Peruvian Communist Party and Leonidas Rodriguez Figueroa's Revolutionary Socialist Party now remain in the front.

The Leftist Unity Front was broken because of disagreements over the drawing up of candidate lists, according to Genaro Ledesma Izquieta. He said: The Peruvian Communist Party and the Revolutionary Socialist Party stubbornly demanded the first place on the list of senators for Jorge del Prado, whereas it rightly belongs to me, since I am a presidential candidate.

OIL MINISTER DISCUSSES LONG TERM OPEC STRATEGY

ID211510 London Press Association in English 1433 GMT 21 Feb 80 ID

[By Robert Hutchinson, PA energy correspondent]

[Text] Market forces over the next few months may allow the OPEC countries to reach an agreement on a new reunified oil price structure--maybe by next June--Venezuelan Oil Minister Dr Humberto Calderon Berti said in London today. A combination of a mild winter and huge stocks of oil worldwide may "make it possible to reach an agreement," he said.

Dr Berti was in London for a committee meeting of six OPEC ministers called to finalise a draft of a long-term strategy for the club of oil exporting nations. In itself, it will have no immediate effect on oil prices. "I believe the price of oil is not going to fall," the minister stressed.

He urged a plan linking the world-wide inflation rate, the effects of a basket of currencies and world gross national product as a means of determining the price of oil. He also foresaw OPEC oil production running at 30-33 million barrels of oil a day in the next 10 years; present world consumption is around 28 million barrels per day.

Discussion of production levels was hampered until the problems of achieving an unified pricing structure were sorted out. The last OPEC meeting in Caracas failed to achieve this and the price race has continued despite signs of the market easing. The draft document on long-term strategy seeks to provide OPEC with a new role in the development of the Third World.

Worried by the effects of inflation on imported goods from the indistrialized world, OPEC wants discussions between developed and under-developed nations to discuss energy supplies, the price of manufactured goods and raw materials, international monetary trends and the transfer of modern technology.

OPEC is also reviving the idea of moving into "downstream" activities--shipping and refining oil--in a more modest way than the grandiose plans produced after the 1973 oil crisis. Dr Berti stressed: "The guarantee of supllies is more important than the price."

The oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Algeria, Kuwait and Venezuela, and a representative of the Iranian Central Bank are to discuss the report in London during the next 36 hours. If agreement is reached, the document will be presented to a special meeting of OPEC foreign, finance and oil ministers before going to the heads of state summit in Baghdad in November.

INTERIOR MINISTER SAYS ILLEGAL FOREIGNERS EXAGGERATED

PA220426 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Rafael Andres Montes de Oca has said that the national government does have an immigration policy. He noted that what happens is that most of the foreigners in the country request tourist or transit visas and then remain in Venezuela. He said that reports about 3.5 million undocumented foreigners in the country, in the opinion of the government, are an exaggeration. He added that the state will prepare a census on the persons without documents to solve the problem at its source. He concluded by stating that the previous government is guilty of having foreigners in the country without documents.

POLICE READY TO CLEAR EMBASSIES IF BELGIUM AGREES

PA211244 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0949 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Feb (EFE)--The absence of a green light from the Belgian Government is said to be the only obstacle preventing the Mexican police from clearing the Belgian and Danish embassies of the leftist militants who have been holding them since Monday, it was learned here at dawn.

According to the report from unofficial sources, the Danish Government has already given its permission to the police to carry out the operation.

The Danish mission occupied by 18 persons, is the only one in which diplomatic personnel remain as a result of Ambassador Vagn Hoelgaard's refusal to abandon it. The occupiers have said he can leave any time he wishes. Only the "invaders" remain at the Belgian Embassy.

The same sources asserted that if the Belgian Government grants its authority, the dislodging operation will be carried out this very dawn.

President Says Occupations 'Unjustified'

PA212210 Paris AFP in Spanish 2055 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 21 Feb (AFP)--The occupation of the Belgian and Danish embassies in Mexico since Monday are actions which seek notoriety and have no justification, Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo stated today.

Interviewed at the close of an exhibition, the president added, as we have often reiterated, there is a willingness to attend to problems and there is freedom to air problems but the agrarian demands must be channeled through the respective entity--the Agrarian Reform Secretariat.

President Lopez Portillo reiterated that there are no political prisoners in Mexico, only prisoners who have committed crimes for political reasons and who on occasion have murdered, kidnaped and robbed. He said that the country is calm and the door to negotiation is open.

Rules Out Forced Evacuation

PA220340 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0058 GMT 22 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Feb (EFE)--Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo announced today that his government will not intervene in the forceful evacuation of groups which since Monday have occupied the Belgian and Danish embassies here. "Belgium and Denmark are aware that their embassies have been peacefully occupied and they did not request the intervention of the national government, and we will not intervene," Lopez Portillo reiterated.

The president expressed the hope that the problem will be quickly settled. On Monday 40 members of small leftist groups peacefully occupied these embassies. The chief of state indicated that the country offers many alternatives and the institutions are working to resolve the problems. He stated emphatically that "there is no reason for demonstrations of this type" and that the occupiers of the embassies are "only seeking notoriety."

PCM: Government to Blame

PA220409 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1044 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Feb (EFE)--The Mexican Comminist Party [PCM] said that the occupation of the embassies shows the "desperation" of some sectors at the "limited" solution given by the government to various social problems.

A PCM communique said today that the Mexican Government has not completely solved the problems of the political prisoners and missing persons nor have they solved the "long-standing demands" of the peasants and settlers.

The invasions of embassies, such as the Belgian and Danish embassies, now in the hands of the extreme left, could be avoided if the government passes an amnesty law, "solves the political prisoner and missing persons problem" and expands a political reform "to all national sectors," the communist declaration concludes.

CASTANEDA MEETS WITH EL SALVADORS CHAVEZ MENA

PA220314 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0205 GMT 22 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Feb (EFE)--Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena met here today with his Mexican counterpart Jorge Castaneda to discuss how Mexico can help in resolving the Salvadoran crisis.

When Chavez Mena arrived at noon from San Salvador, he stated that the Mexican Government could contribute to resolving the "profound political crisis" which El Salvador is experiencing as a result of acts of violence being committed by rightist and leftist groups.

For its part, the Mexican Foreign Secretariat released no information whatsoever regarding the meeting between Chavez and Castaneda, indicating that the Salvadoran foreign minister is on a private visit. It explained, however, that the meeting with Castaneda had been brief.

On his arrival in this capital, Chavez Mena predicted that a new change of government in El Salvador would only contribute to worsening the crisis. He noted that the current regime has the solidarity of all Central American and Andean Pact member countries.

Queried on this, the Salvadoran foreign minister said the recent incidents of violence in his country will be "exhaustively" investigated. Chavez Mena noted that the government of his country seeks to consolidate a "center-left" ideological framework and cut back on the political influence of private enterprise. The minister announced that he will return to his country tonight.

SHAH TELLS SWISS PAPER FREEDOM NOT RESTRICTED

PA211449 Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 21 Feb 80 p 1 PA

[Text] Lausanne (DPA)--The ex-shah of Iran, now exiled in Panama, is showing concern over charges that the Iranian Revolutionary Council could prefer against him, adding that there were no witnesses in his favor left in Iran because "they were either assassinated or expelled from that country."

Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, interviewed by "24 HEURES," a Lausanne newspaper, with regard to the international commission being set up to investigate charges made by the Khomeyni regime, said he has not been told he could not leave Panama, or that his freedom had been restricted, as published in the foreign press.

"I have not tested the attitude of the Panamanian authorities, but by their own admission I continue to be a free man," he said. He added that Panama has a serious nation that respects its laws.

CANAL OFFICIAL HITS U.S. MILITARY CONTROL OF ZONE

PA220354 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Statement by Fernando Manfredo, Panama Canal assistant administrator, to Televisora Nacional; no date given--recorded]

[Excerpts] In the 5 months since the implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaty, the situation in the area does not seem too favorable for Panamanians. Among the conditions which cannot be concealed is the noticeable state of neglect of the majority of the installations which reverted to Panama. Another situation, perhaps the most important because of the impact it has on most Panamanians, is the fact that the U.S. Army either directly or indirectly maintains absolute control of the canal area. It is no longer a secret among high Panamanian circles and the U.S. Government that U.S. military personnel in civilian clothes are holding the most important positions in the Panama Canal administrative structure. The U.S. Army controls hospitals, schools and commissaries. This already has caused problems between civilians and the men in uniform because the regulations for civilians and for the military are entirely different. Regarding the joint defense, the situation is no different. Panamanian and U.S. military personnel have the situation under control to the point that even traffic violation becomes a big police operation.

Fernando Manfredo, Panama Canal assistant administrator, who explains alleged differences between the Defense Department and the canal administration, leaves no doubt about U.S. military control in the canal area.

[Begin Manfredo recording] In the first place, let me explain to you that two U.S. Congressmen Bonior and Bauman came from the United States to find out for themselves what has taken place since 1 October, when the treaties were implemented. Bonior and Bauman were particularly interested in finding out about the conditions of the canal workers and employees and about U.S. communities in the housing areas.

They talked to the members of these communities, who brought up the problems they have been facing since the U.S. Armed Forces took over the activities the U.S. nationals performed before the treaties were implemented--activities which were carried out by the Panama Canal Company or the Canal Zone government. I am particularly referring to hospitals, schools and commissaries. Congressman Bauman said that he had received many complaints from members of the U.S. communities on the functioning of the commissaries by the U.S. Army. But he added that there is an explanation for this. The five commissaries which were operated by the Panama Canal Company were transferred with its personnel to the armed forces. None of them had any experience in the way the military runs commissaries. Let me tell you this, Panama is the only place in the world where the armed forces commissaries are served by personnel other than the military and civilian personnel of the armed forces. [end recording]

TORRIJOS CONGRATULATES CANADA'S TRUDEAU ON ELECTION

PA210538 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 20 Feb 80 PA

[Text] General Omar Torrijos, former Panamanian chief of government, has said that people turn to their leaders in times of crisis. The Panamanian leader made this statement in a congratulatory message sent today to the new Canadian prime minister, Pierre Elliot Trudeau.

Torrijos, who headed the Panamanian revolutionary movement for 10 years until 1978, when he announced his withdrawal from politics, said in his message to Trudeau that in times of crisis people turn to the leaders who can guide them. The people turn away from the leader who says "go" to the one who says "follow me." He adds that he knew Trudeau would make a comeback and that the Canadian leader would not forsake his people.

Torrijos also congratulated the Canadian people for seeing a real leader in Trudeau.

HONDURAS REPORTS NEGOTIATIONS WITH EL SALVADOR TO CONTINUE

PA211347 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The foreign ministers of Honduras and El Salvador will hold two meetings in the next few weeks. One of these two meetings will probably be attended by Dr Jose Luis Bustamante y Rivero, who is acting as mediator between the two countries.

This decision was adopted during the meeting that Eliseo Perez Cadalso and his Salvadoran colleague, Dr Fidel Chavez Mena, held early this week in San Jose, Costa Rica. During that meeting, the two discussed in general terms the problem existing between the two nations. According to the Honduran official, it could be said that a significant step was taken in these negotiations.

Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo and his foreign minister, Rafael Angel Calderon, offered their country to the Honduran and Salvadoran ministers as a meeting place so that the necessary negotiations may continue.

COSTA RICA

U.S. GRAIN BOYCOTT AFFECTS CATTLE INDUSTRY

PA220300 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Feb 80 PA

[Text] U.S. sanctions against the Soviet Union will be felt in Costa Rica because the price of meat will drop. Cattle production has dropped by 10 percent. Pablo Araya, director of the Beef Regulating Commission, said one of the factors affecting the beef market is the U.S. grain embargo against Russia. The embargo will reduce the price of grains used to feed pigs and poultry causing a price drop in the meat from these animals and their substitution for beef. This adjustment in market conditions will cause a drop in beef prices.

The negative effect on beef prices caused by the boycott against Russia, resulting in more poultry production to be consumed in the U.S. market, is affecting beef market stability. Our country is one of the main beef exporters to the United States and the cattle industry is confronting a series of domestic and international problems. The U.S. market is fluid and it is difficult to predict the level at which prices will stabilize during the present year, Araya said.

BORDER RESIDENTS REPORT PANAMANIAN TROOP ACTIVITY

PA212035 Panama City RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica--Presumed incursions by members of Panama's National Guard into Costa Rican territory have been publicly reported by residents of the common border area, the Costa Rican daily LA REPUBLICA reveals today.

The entry of Panamanian militarymen, denied by authorities of the Ministry of Public Security in San Jose, stemmed from their desire to search for presumed camps in Costa Rica where guerrillas are allegedly being trained to launch an offensive against the government of President Royo.

Residents of the border area sent a telegram to Costa Rican Minister of Public Security Juan Jose Echeverria in which they point out that the residents of the southern zone denounce the presence of Panamanian troops on Costa Rican soil.

In a brief survey conducted by LA REPUBLICA, the residents of Ciudad Neilly, Corredores, San Vito de Coto Bruz, Paso Canda and Golfito confirmed the presence of Panmanian troops on Costa Rican soil. One of the witnesses said that a contingent of 25 heavily armed Panamanian troops had recently stayed at the headquarters of the Costa Rican Civil Guard in Ciudad Neilly, the daily reports.

Meanwhile, the Costa Rican security agency has been investigating since last week the possible presence of Panamanian rebels on the border. The camps allegedly were organized by the self-styled Panamanian Nationalist Front, one of whose presumed members, Abraham Crocamo Arevalo, was deported by the San Jose government to Venezuela.

AMBASSADOR TO NICARAGUA TO BECOME FOREIGN MINISTER

PA211951 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Jose Rafael Cordero Croceri, the Costa Rican ambassador accredited to our country, will be returning home shortly to assume the post of minister of foreign relations.

For this reason the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction will bid him farewell in a very significant ceremony in which he will be given a document.

In one of his speeches when he first arrived as representative of Costa Rica to Nicaragua, Cordero Croceri said he has always been anti-Somozist and was very happy to be his country's first ambassador in the free nation.

EL SALWADOR

SPAIN WILL NOT WITHDRAW EMBASSY; RESIDENCE IN USE

PA220304 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1637 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 21 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Spain will not withdraw its embassy from El Salvador, a diplomatic spokesman told ACAN-EFE today. The embassy recently had been occupied by Marxists demanding the release of 19 of their comrades.

The Spanish diplomatic mission in El Salvador has not reopened its doors to the public yet and business is being handled at the residence of Ambassador Victor Sanchez-Mesas y Juste in San Benito District in the western part of San Salvador.

Policemen are guarding the embassy in the Flor Blanca District, 10 blocks west of downtown San Salvador. Its interior and exterior are being renovated.

Diplomatic mission chief Sanchez-Mesas told ACAN-EFE that he would take his vacation scheduled for April now. The Spanish ambassador has rendered a detailed report of the incident to Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja with whom he had remained in constant contact.

PCN WANTS JUNTA TO EXPLAIN WASHINGTON POST REPORT

PA211554 San Salvador LA PRENSA GAFICA in Spanish 20 Feb 80 p 46 PA

[Paid advertisement by the PCN: "What Does the Christian Democratic Junta Have to Say About This?"]

[Text] The Christian Democratic junta must explain to the Salvadoran people what its stand is on the terrible absurdity, which according to a report published in Caracas quoting the Washington POST is being prepared against El Salvador:

"The Salvadoran junta has indicated the appropriateness of undertaking a multisided action." (quoting page 7 of LA PRENSA GRAFICA on 14 February 1980)

It has been stated that this is the goal of talks underway between Venezuela and the United States, which are clearly sponsoring the civilian faction of the junta.

Since such an attack on national sovereignty and the free determination of the Salvadoran people has no comparable precedent, even the dictator Hernandez Martinez in 1932 rejected a suggested foreign intervention, the National Conciliation Party [PCN] wants the Christian Democratic junta to give a public explanation of this and the steps it has taken to deny it because it thinks it is impossible for any Salvadoran to want such an unpatriotic and undemocratic action.

"Toward social justice through national conciliation"

[Signed] PCN Political Committee 20 Feb 80

BPR STAGES DEMONSTRATIONS, EVACUATES BUILDINGS

PA211300 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1300 GMT 20 Feb 80 PA

[Excerpt] A demonstration organized by the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc [BPR] toured the main areas of this Salvadoran capital without incident. The demonstrators took advantage of the demonstration to withdraw BPR activists who have been occupying three state institutions since last week.

The thousands of demonstrators staged a meeting in front of the government-owned Agricultural Development Bank where members of the Federation of Farm Workers were demanding reductions in the prices of agricultural production materials and in the interest rates of loans granted by the institution.

The same procedure was followed for the evacuation of the State Water and Sanitation Institute, where the occupiers were demanding the provision of drinking water 24 hours a day throughout the country.

The installations of the Salvadoran Foreign Trade Institute were also evacuated.

TWO STUDENTS KILLED, BYSTANDER WOUNDED IN SHOOTING

PA212310 Paris AFP in Spanish 2132 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Feb (AFP)--Two law students of the University of San Salvador were killed and one young girl wounded today in a rifle shooting incident in this capital.

The two students had left their homes when unidentified persons sped by in a vehicle and opened fire, killing them, and wounding a pedestrian.

No political group has as yet claimed credit for the killing.

20 FEBRUARY STRIKE PROTESTS GOVERNMENT REPRESSION

PA211337 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Reports from San Salvador say that the Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation [FENASTRAS] Wednesday held a nationwide 2-hour strike which began at 1100.

The strike was called to protest what FENASTRAS believes to be government repression against labor unions and other organizations. The strike also protested the death of Julio Salinas, member of the 28 February People's Leagues and member of the Lempa River Labor Union. He died on 13 February in what the authorities described as a confrontation.

STECEL STAGES STRIKE, CONDEMNS 'CONTINUING REPRESSION'

PA210419 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish at 1725 GMT 20 Feb 80 PA

["Basic Portion" of communique issued by STECEL workers--date not given]

[Text] The Union of Workers of the Rio Lempa Executive Hydroelectric Commission Enterprise, a member of the Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation [FENASTRAS] announces that: in compliance with decisions of the FENASTRAS Federal Council meeting last week, it was decided that all unions affiliated with FENASTRAS would stage a strike in repudiation of the repression, arrests and raids being carried out against the Salvadoran people by the repressive forces for the sole reason that they are organized, are asking for justice and are demonstrating in the streets for solutions to their problems. The government responds with bullets, as in the following cases.

STECEL condemns:

1. The massacre of students from the Movement of Revolutionary High School Students [MERS].

2. The selective repression of teachers from the National Association of Salvadoran Educators [ANDES].

3. The bestial eviction of our comrades of the 28 February People's Leagues [LP-28] from the headquarters of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], where four of our comrades were killed in cold blood.

4. Repression in the rural areas, where a permanent military operation is underway, with women being unable to stay with their children at home. There are also very extreme cases in which some of our comrades have given birth in the bushes.

5. The assassination of Comrade Julio Armando Salinas, legal representative of the workers at the (Guachapal) geothermal plant. He was murdered on 13 February by almost 200 members of the national police, National Guard and the army.

6. The workers at the Rio Lempa enterprise are still victims of the wave of repression in the country, such as Comrade Jorge Genoves, who on 16 February, after leaving work, was on his way to Soyopango to play football when he was stopped by the National Guard at the Soyopango bus terminal.

They searched his knapsack and, on finding his uniform with its insignia, beat him savagely. He is now hospitalized.

7. We vigorously condemn the destruction of radio station YSAX by a rightist organization financed by the oligarchy and supported by the government junta.

8. We condemn the economic and military aid that the United States is giving to the government junta, which has sent U.S. and Israeli military advisers to train the repressive forces and soldiers to massacre more of our people.

Salvadoran people: All these acts of repression, in the countryside and the city, are accepted by the Salvadoran oilgarchy and the Yankee imperialists, using their repressive national police, rural police, National Guard and a portion of the army.

We call on hospitals, clinics and the people in general to be on the alert.

WORKERS SEIZE TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPH BUILDING

PA211947 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1855 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Workers of the National Telecommunications Administration (ANTEL), the state organization that controls El Salvador's telephone and telegraph services, this morning occupied one of the organization's main offices.

Several members of the Association of ANTEL Workers (ATANTEL) said they were negotiating with the institution's president for return to work of five of their fellow workers who were apparently fired for having fostered the founding of the labor union.

More than 500 employees of the Roma Central backed the stoppage, said the leaders of the occupation, adding that ANTEL organizational chiefs are being held hostage by the ATANTEL. They added that for the time being, the occupation does not mean the suspension of services rendered by ANTEL, but that if their demands are not met, national and international telephone and telegraph services could be paralyzed.

The Roma Central is located in the western part of this capital city. It is a nerve center of ANTEL, and the location from where most of the services rendered by the institution are controlled.

Workers Restore Services

PA212135 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1900 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The problem at the National Telecommunications Administration [ANTEL] station in Roma District in this capital, where workers had paralyzed services and seized the station, has been solved. ANTEL workers in other cities including San Miguel, Santa Ana, Usulutan had also interrupted communications services in solidarity with their colleagues. It was learned a few minutes ago that technicians at the Roma District station had held a meeting to analyze the situation and to approve some demands. They are demanding substantial changes in working conditions and demanding that four of their colleagues, who were dismissed, be rehired. In the meantime, a commission representing the workers was appointed to carry out negotiations with ANTEL directors. The latest reports indicate that telecommunications services have been restored throughout the country and that everything is normal at ANTEL.

INTERVIEWS HELD WITH JUNTA MEMBER MORALES

Leftists, Rightists Scored

PA190134 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Feb 80 PA

[Interview with Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, member of the revolutionary junta of the Government of El Salvador; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Morales Ehrlich, a member of the junta of the Government of El Salvador, is at this rally. Dr Morales Ehrlich, what is the position of the government junta with regard to the violence taking place in El Salvador?

[Answer] There has been an increase in the violence because the extremes are trying to prevent changes from taking place. However, the agrarian reform, the nationalization of banks and all these changes that will take power away from the oligarchy to give it to the people will be implemented, and as this occurs, the violence will stop. Besides, we are going to initiate a pacification plan that will have social, economic, political and even military characteristics to bring peace and order to this country.

[Question] Dr Morales Ehrlich, in our visit to San Salvador we have noticed that there are various sectors that exist between the polarized forces. Some of them talk about an imminent popular insurrection. Others talk about a possible civil war that could bring more death to the Salvadorans. As a junta member and as leader of the Salvadoran Christian Democrats, do you think that an insurrection is imminent or that on the contrary there are still resources, methods or government plans to stop this situation?

[Answer] Of course it is not imminent and there is a deadline for moving forward. What has happened is that an effort has been made to provoke events. The right is doing it to provoke a coup d'etat, which would be fatal for this country and for the power balance in the area. The left has also tried to prevent changes from taking place because they would lose their banner of struggle.

I repeat, there is no danger of a civil war because we are going to change this country. The revolutionary junta is steadfast and it has the necessary support.

[Question] Dr Morales Ehrlich, in the opinion of many sectors, the situation of the Revolutionary Government Junta is family complicated because it is in the middle of the two forces, of the two ultras, if you like. Has either of these two sectors charged that the government junta, far from being in between the two forces, is on the side of one sector? What is your opinion on this?

[Answer] The junta is on the side of the majority of the Salvadoran people. The one that responds to a minority sector is the right. That sector does not want to lose its privileges and everyday becomes weaker. The same applies to the ultraleft. It is responding to a sector that wants to make its own changes, its own revolution.

However, I think that the junta is doing what the majority of the Salvadorans are interested in doing, although this great majority includes the silent majority and this is what diminishes the junta's image. However, this image has improved and we are going to improve it basically through a process of change and by imposing the order we need in this country.

[Question] Do you think the junta's position has improved in the past few days in relation to the violent position of the groups of the oligarchy and the leftist groups of the student and popular vanguards?

[Answer] Yes. The junta is solid. The problem is that in this country, it has only been 1 month since we took power. The problem goes back to 50 years. We are not going to create peace in one month, overnight. This is a process that will have some costs, but we are sure that we will march forward because there is support. Although at present some are resorting to threats, this is ending, it is passing. The people are opening their eyes and understanding that they can achieve revolutionary changes in peace. This is better than violence.

[Question] Dr Morales Ehrlich, I don't want to take too much of your time. With regard to the measures that both sides are taking, with the seizure of embassies and churches and violent demonstrations, what measures will be adopted by the junta? Will the present policy be maintained? We have been able to see demonstrations freely occur in the streets and there have been movements by the public forces and also clashes that have resulted in death for both sides.

[Answer] As the junta gains legitimacy, and as legitimacy is obtained through changes, we will set in motion a pacification plan [words indistinct- and the citizens will be told what can be done and what should not be done according to our laws. We have sufficient authority to enforce this.

This will bring an end to the increase in violence that has been seen. There is much artificiality to it. Much has been done to overact, to obtain the destabilization of the junta.

The right is acting up. The left is doing the same. And this is done to precipitate events, to create panic and to see if a coup or an insurrection takes place. But you have seen there is none of that.

[Question] Dr Ehrlich, as you have been presenting your position, or the junta's position, you, as a member of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], have talked to us about the right and the left. In the Salvadoran political situation, how would you characterize the position of the Christian Democrats you represent in the junta?

[Answer] The Christian Democracy is in the left. The left that I spoke to you about is the revolutionary Marxist-Leninist left, which wants to impose on us a socialist Marxist-Leninist society. The PDC is a leftist party that wants to carry out a revolution, but we want a communitarian.

Other Issues Discussed

PA210239 San Salvador THE NEWS GAZETTE in English 17-23 Feb 80 pp 1, 10 PA

[By Editor Mario Rosenthal]

[Excerpts] Junta member and Christian Democratic Party leader Dr Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich assured THE NEWS GAZETTE that private property will be respected in El Salvador. "We will not establish a socialist society in which private property is abolished," he said. "Such fears are groundless."

Asked what role private enterprise will play, he replied: "Private enterprise is necessary to our project. We are going to establish an authentic democracy in which we will effect profound changes in the power structure but always based on the private enterprise system."

He noted, "private enterprise should not be confused with the great oligarchic capital of the country." He said that whatever profound changes were being carried out in the power structure, that the sector under attack used all its power including the news media--which he alleged they largely control--to appeal to the universal feeling of frustration and to inspire fear that the state would take everything away from the people. "They accuse the reformers of being communists and inciting against the government the very people it wants to favor."

Morales Ehrlich said that the banking system had already been consulted. He was emphatic in saying: "I don't think that the law should be drawn up with them. They have already expressed their opinions widely in the newspapers and they have also come here to talk to us and give us their opinion which we have taken into account. The political decision is in the hands of the government," he said. "We must give the interests of the people first consideration."

Asked if the junta intended to consult public opinion through a plebiscite or election in the near future, he replied: "We are transitory. When conditions are better we will have general elections. If a plebiscite is necessary, we will have one, but at this moment, I don't think it is necessary. Look, those who are taking about plebiscites are those who really want to return to the past so that there won't be changes."

El Salvador is close to a peaceful solution of its problems today than it was a month ago, Dr Ehrlich maintained. He said, "the people are determined to find a peaceful solution." He said in the rural districts there was more security and that one could find people who have faith in the government and who are determined to work for the changes. There has also been a reduction in the number of extremists. The problem is here in San Salvador, where the government is being subjected to a total attack now that everyone is aware and convinced that the changes will be carried out."

Dr Ehrlich expressed confidence that the strength of democracy is greater than the strength of terrorism. The terrorists openly declare that their ends can be obtained only by the forcible overthrow of the government. "They will lose this strength. Remember that the forces of democracy are stronger than the forces of terrorism," he said.

He estimates that 10 percent of the nation could be extremist sympathizers. "They could be persons of all ages and both sexes," he said. "Another 10 percent sympathize with the extreme right. That leaves 80 percent, the great majority of the people, sympathizing with democracy."

"The problem in El Salvador is that the people have lost their faith in democracy because they have never known it. They have to regain this faith, lose their fear, and fight for democracy.

FPL GUERRILLA CARPIO INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC SITUATION

PA192011 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Salvador Carpio, Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL] commander, said during an interview published by the independent newspaper EXCELSIOR in Mexico City today that war in El Salvador is reaching its final stages. He made this statement somewhere in El Salvador and he talked about the unity of the peoples organizations, the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and possible U.S. military interference.

Essentially, the time needed to achieve social liberation in El Salvador depends on the strengthening and development of the united work of the revolutionary political-military organizations and the mass organizations, Carpio noted.

He said the former includes the FPL, the Armed Forces of National Resistance and the Communist Party of El Salvador, belonging to the Revolutionary Coordinating Board and the Revolutionary Peoples Army. United action is fundamental because it develops as fighting becomes more intense and determined to achieve power, Carpio said.

Companero Marcial, as he is called, highlighted the confidence of the peoples leaders that they will further unite until they achieve organic unity. Regardless of the difficulties met along the way the revolutionary organizations and their leaders are totally determined to consolidate, strengthen and develop that unity, he said.

He also discussed the need to unite the church's democratic sectors, honest army officers, professionals, and small and medium-sized businessmen. Beginning with the political-military organizations and the mass organizations, Carpio said, the democratic sectors such as Social Democrats, the PDC vanguard and some armed forces officers must seek further unity.

According to the FPL commander, there are three factions within the PDC: the faction led by Secretary General Jose Napoleon Duarte, the most backward and the one that is compromised to the oligarchy; the one led by Ruben Zamora which lately has been in alliance with the U.S. State Department; and the peoples faction with a majority among the grassroots. The former two factions were qualified by Carpio as hired servants of imperialist interests.

Marcial then called on the solidarity of the Spanish-American countries opposed to intervention and the support of all nations to insure the United States does not land troops in El Salvador. However, he warned of the possibility that the United States might interfere through the puppet armies of Honduras and Guatemala and ultimately with its own troops.

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO ANALYZES POLITICAL SITUATION

PA201625 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 20 Feb 80 PA

[Telephone interview with Archbishop of San Salvador Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero by unidentified questioner on 19 February--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Monsignor Romero, could you please explain the position of the church concerning the Salvadoran political situation?

[Answer] First of all, thank you for allowing me to greet our brothers, the Nicaraguan people, for whom we pray. We hope the Nicaraguans will achieve a just society, which is the main concern of the church for both Nicaragua and El Salvador. The church serves God, and we hope we will achieve a just society here, regardless of the political system. That is why the church here is trying to maintain its autonomy, but at the same time supports the people in the process of changing this social unjustice in which we live into a just, fraternal and Christian order. Our people have faith.

Perhaps you're aware of our political [word indistinct]. There is an extreme right here opposed to all changes and it is provoking much violence. We already have an institutionalized violence of an unjust order which is resulting in more violence, murder, uncertainty and fear. Then, there are the extreme leftist organizations that are trying to change our people. They are trying to unite, but sometimes they also provoke [word indistinct] the anger of the people in the face of social injustice. In the face of these organizations, the church supports the just demands but points out the dangers of these excesses, the sins of injustice which they also commit.

We have a government which is a coalition of the armed forces and the Christian Democrats. We support their good intentions and their announced plans of changes. At the same time, we assert that they are not very effective. We've heard their promises but we haven't seen any of them fulfilled. Rather, we see that the government is following a line of repression which the church cannot tolerate and must denounce because it is provoking many crimes, many massacres which are hindering the good will of the good sector of the government. That is the true situation here. In this situation the church, which seeks truth and justice, denounces all actions that are opposed to the true changes that the people need.

[Question] Do you think the Salvadoran people will benefit from the U.S. Government's attitude of intervening in the domestic affairs of El Salvador?

[Answer] I have sent a letter to the President of the United States, analyzing any intervention, precisely because we have learned that the United States wants to give military aid to El Salvador. We have said that military aid would be counterproductive in view of the repressive nature of the armed forces today. Likewise, in addition to military intervention, any other intervention which would seek to push the people to plans imposed from abroad would do more harm than good.

Using as a basis the documents of Puebla in which the Latin American bishops proclaimed there should be no foreign interventions to determine the lives of other peoples, I felt it was necessary to send this letter precisely to voice our people's will to defend its autonomy and to keep out forces that will slaughter our people.

[Question] Do you think the revolutionary organizations of El Salvador represent the people's will to establish true democracy?

[Answer] One cannot say they are the people. They are a large sector of the people. They are striving to unite the people and open the way for other democratic forces. We believe they are becoming more mature. This might mean they could become the expression of the people and they could attract the people. But, as I said before, they need to present specific plans, and I think they are working on this.

GUATEMALA

DEPUTY ALFARO VIEWS SPANISH EMBASSY INCIDENT

PA151316 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 6 Feb 80 p 2 PA

[Text] Deputy Hector Napoleon Alfaro, president of the Congressional Foreign Relations Committee and of the Revolutionary Party [RP] Senate bloc, said that the incident at the Spanish Embassy should not affect the negotiations to solve the Belize case.

The incident has had a detrimental effect on the country's image abroad. UN Secretary Kurt Waldheim sent a message to Spain regretting the incident and adding that the taking of hostages and attacking an embassy are illegal.

If we analyze the matter coldly, Deputy Alfaro continued, there was a loss of life and a violation of the extraterritoriality of the Spanish diplomatic mission because persons alien to its personnel entered and intimidated the staff.

From this moment on, he said, the violation of agreements and treaties of international law began. Another matter which must be noted, he reasserted, is that the job of the police is not to deliberate policy.

The police, he reasserted, never question orders. Therefore, it is wrong to blame the police for this violation of international agreements because they enforce rather than formulate policy.

I don't believe that other embassies will withdraw from our country because of this problem, he said. On the contrary, they will demand more protection and vigilance for embassies as well as for consulates.

This is not an isolated case, he said. Two days ago the French Embassy in Libya was attacked. Therefore, we must analyze the situation. The news media should guide public opinion and remain aware of the damage done to our country by the publication of such incidents. Information should be released according to international treaties.

A thorough investigation must be made, he said. We must let the Andean countries do it because it cannot be done by just anybody since it requires technical knowledge.

Spain has asked the OAS to investigate but we must remember that European countries are not OAS members. Therefore, we believe that the investigation must be done by the Andean countries. Also there is a commission at the United Nations assigned to the sixth commission for international conflicts and they are in a position to investigate the case.

Deputy Alfaro, referring to the invasion of the Spanish Embassy in El Salvador, said that it was a result of the climate of violence and anarchy existing in the neighboring country. No Guatemalan, he said, would want a similar situation to exist in our country.

HONDURAS

PEASANTS SEIZE LAND TO PRESSURE GOVERNMENT

PA220052 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2030 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 21 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Peasants National Association (ANACH), which has more than 40,000 members, today seized more than 10,000 hectares in six departments throughout the country.

ANACH leaders said that the operation was started Wednesday night in the northwestern departments of Copan, Santa Barbara, Cortes, and Yoro, and in the central department of Comayaguela, and Choluteca in the south.

It was reported that 300 peasant groups were mobilized for the operation which was decided upon because the government had ignored their requests for land. ANACH leader Benjamin Cortes Alberto said that more than 200 requests for land have been shelved, and that now the peasants are seizing land to pressure the government. He said that if the government evicts them they will use other means.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA SAYS U.S. LOAN NOT DECISIVE FOR ECONOMY

PA211637 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra stated during a news conference that the $75 million loan being debated by the U.S. Congress is not a decisive factor for the economic reactivation of our country.

The decisive element for the reactivation is the effort of the workers and the organiza--tion of our working masses, not the loan, said Ortega. He stressed that it is the people of Nicaragua who are going to obtain that loan and not the superior council of private enterprise.

He said that the loan is considered approved. He also said that there is an attitude on the part of the U.S. Government that it could very well refuse to approve the loan. But it would be significant that, after having lent and given money to Somoza for years to keep him in power, the new government was not favored. Here are the words of the commander of the revolution:

[Begin Ortega recording] [Words indistinct] The propaganda being made in connection with this $75-million loan. It is a loan, it is not a gift from the U.S. Government. Because it appears that [words indistinct] the interested party, that these $75 million are going to be decisive for economic reactivation, something that is not true. The decisive element for the economic reactivation is the effort of the Nicaraguans, the organization of the Nicaraguan people.

Also, there is the impression that it is a gift [words indistinct], an act of very great goodness on the part of the United States and that here, we are trembling over whether the $75 million arrives or not. It is important to make this clear because, even in a U.S. newspaper, it has been commented that $75 million is not a lot to give Nicaragua because, at the same time, in the same package, they are giving $400 million to Pakistan for weapons. Meanwhile, Nicaragua needs money for reconstruction, and you can see what this $75 million loan has cost us. [end recording]

COMMENTARY SAYS U.S. LOAN MUST HE WITHOUT 'CONDITIONS'

PA212042 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Commentary]

[Text] Much is being said regarding the $75-million in aid promised by the United States to Nicaragua and expectation has been created in connection with the debate on the loan's approval in the Yankee Congress.

For some, the wait is dramatic and anguished. For others, it is not. For some, it is dramatic because they consider this aid a matter of life or death for us.

Also--and this is the important part of the problem--they think that one way or another, this aid will be an instrument for submission, dependence or interference into our affairs which, for some elements very close to the Yankee embassy, is highly attractive.

For the others, for those of us who do not lose sleep over the whims and the [word indistinct] of U.S. congressmen, those $75 million are seen as something which, if approved, would in reality be somewhat beneficial for the Nicaraguans because it is substantial aid that is necessary for our ruined economy--ruined because the same persons who today haggle over the aid contributed to ruining it.

However, if this aid is not approved, no Nicaraguans should throw themselves on the ground or become desperate because, with or without Yankee aid, we will always get ahead.

If in other moments, in much more difficult circumstances, the Nicaraguan people's spirit of work, heroism and courage has imposed itself over calamity, why not now when we count on the most valuable thing a human being can count on--freedom--and above all, the tranquillity and security of being able to dedicate oneself to the work that creates wealth for our society?

If the $75 million loans is approved, fine. If they do not approve it, if they are going to want to impose their will on us, pressure or blackmail us, it is better that the dollars remain where they are. Let them put them in their pockets because to tell the truth, the Nicaraguan man is sufficiently dignified to say no when his honor and his history are at stake. We have already said it--and these are not simple words--that Sandinists neither sell out nor surrender. And all we Nicaraguans are Sandinists.

Now then, for those who dream about those dollars and the chains they bring with them, these poor men, these mediocre beings have never seen beyond their blindness; they have never seen a glorious people such as ours and possibly never will.

For them, and for their ambitions of empire, we can only hope they disappear quickly, because neither they nor chained dollars have a place in this heroic nation. If they are going to give this aid, let them give it. If not, let them keep it. But in Nicaragua, there is no place either for conditioned dollars or their imposed administrators.

For those, then, who see this aid as a matter of life or death, we have only to applaud their death when we say no to blackmail.

GOVERNMENT TO ANNOUNCE RECORD FUEL PRICE INCREASES

PA211756 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The new prices of gasoline and other fuels which the Nicaraguan Government will officially announce soon are the highest fuel price increases in Nicaragua's history. Beginning on Monday, super gasoline will cost 22.50 cordobas a gallon, a 58 percent increase; regular gasoline will cost 19.80 a gallon, a 52 percent increase; diesel will cost 11.80 a gallon, a 35 percent increase; and kerosene will cost 12.60 a gallon, a 26 percent increase.

Finance Minister on Price Effects

PA211757 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Will the economic reactivation plan figures be affected by the increase in fuel prices? According to the private sector, the figures will definitely have to be revised by the government because many of them have been affected by the price increases. However, Finance Minister Joaquin Cuadra maintains that the economic reactivation plan has in no way been affected since the increases had been foreseen. Here is an interview with the finance minister who indicated that the economic reactivation plan continues to be valid.

[Begin recording] [Cuadra] Since the fuel price increases had been expected, the figures of the economic reactivation plan will not be affected by those increases.

[Questions] Some people say that the plan foresaw a 30-percent increase while in reality the increase seems to be about 60 percent.

[Answer] I don't recall the exact figure but it was very easy to foresee the increase in prices at the levels which they are reaching.

[Question] Is the budget affected by the increase?

[Answer] No, the budget is not affected except in the consumption of fuels and lubricants by government institutions. But at the same time there is also an increase in revenue from the taxes on these products.

[Question] How will these fuel price increases affect industrial development?

[Answer] In the same way that they affect industrial development in other underdeveloped countries in the world. [end recording]

OFFICIALS COMMENT ON SOMOZISTS' ARREST IN HONDURAS

PA160353 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1733 GMT 15 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 15 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Eligio Alvarez Montalvan, press secretary of the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, confirmed to the local paper LA TRIBUNA that his government has not been officially informed of the dismantling of a Somozist camp in Honduras.

On Saturday the Honduran Army captured 275 persons who were training while awaiting arms from a friendly country to invade Nicaragua. They have been confined to a refugee camp where they are being closely watched.

"Nicaraguan officials have always expected the former Somozist guardsmen to do something," Alvarez Montalvan said. "There are so many former guardsmen in Honduras and they are desperate to return, one way or another, even at the risk of their own lives."

The official said the Nicaraguan Government had learned of the existence of the camp and the action of the Honduran troops only through international news agency dispatches.

"We will not ask for explanations from the Honduran Government," he said, "because we know that the Somozists are acting without the authorities' knowledge and the counter-revolutionary activities are being carried out clandestinely." He said, however, the Honduran Government might be asked to exercise greater vigilance over the refugee camps, where the Somozist counterrevolutionaries came from.

In conclusion, he said, "The Nicaraguan people are committed to work, and if the Somozists come with counterrevolutionary intent, they will die."

Honduran Government [and Justice] minister Col Cristobal Diaz has said if it is proved that those arrested violated the right of asylum, "they will be expelled from the country."

At present, the National Refugee Committee, which is administered by four Honduran ministries, is carrying out an in-depth investigation to determine whether or not the captured former Somozist guardsmen were refugees.

In another quarter, Rodolfo Gutierrez, minister-counselor of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Tegucigalpa, announced that the Nicaraguan Government will request that the Honduran Government extradite a large number of former National Guard officers. "A list of all former high-ranking Somozist officials in Honduras is already available," he said. "Most of them have been involved in counterrevolutionary activities without the knowledge of Honduran authorities." The official paid tribute to the Honduran Government for its action in making the arrests on Saturday and said, "That is a small number. We know that thousands of them are involved in counterrevolutionary activities against Nicaragua."

Honduran military authorities have reiterated that "Honduran territory will not be used as a springboard or a hunting ground for any foreign force."

This position was maintained in the most heated days of the Nicaraguan civil war and has been upheld in international forums as an expression of Honduran neutrality regarding the internal affairs in neighboring countries.

COMMENTATOR CALLS CARTER 'CHAMPION OF MILITARISM'

FL210153 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Feb 80 FL

[Jose Bodes Gomez commentary]

[Excerpts] U.S. President James Carter declared during his previous electoral campaign that the United States could not be at the same time champion of peace and the top arms supplier in the world. After 3 years in the White House, there is no doubt that the American President prefers to be the champion of militarism and discard his promises to make every effort in favor of peace.

The last budget submitted to congress is a reminder, in an alarming way, of the cold war policy which President Harry Truman followed after the Second World War. Truman, like Carter, came from the ranks of the U.S. Democratic Party.

Military expenditures over the next fiscal year will amount to $142.7 billion or 23 percent of the entire budget of the United States. This enormous sum of money will be largely invested in the production of arms by the principal U.S. companies. These companies form what is known as the military-industrial complex whose influence on Washington's domestic and foreign policies is decisive in many respects.

Arms sales have become a lucrative business for U.S. monopolies. Wall Street magnates complain that they have been displaced from the Latin American market by their competitors in Western Europe. However, the facts show that the United States currently is selling almost half of the arms exported in the world. The NATO countries as a whole handle 70 percent of this traffic, according to data published by the International Institute for Peace Research headquartered in Stockholm.

In 1978, the total value of arms exported in the world was almost $20 billion. The most significant thing about this is that nearly $14 billion went to countries of the so-called Third World. The principal U.S. clients over the past decade were countries of the Middle East with Israel and Saudi Arabia heading the list. Arms sales to the Zionist forces and the Arab countries which unconditionally support Washington, such as Egypt does now, represent a key part of U.S. interventionist policy in that part of the world. In the same manner, arms shipments now are being increased to Pakistan, and the Pentagon, through its secretary Harold Brown, is demanding arms supplies to the Chinese rulers.

However, the biggest business of U.S. arms manufacturers is now aimed at Western Europe where NATO is planning to place more than 500 medium-range missiles aimed primarily at the Soviet Union. The missiles, however, also are a potential threat to countries of the Arabian Gulf, where the United States is planning to use its new rapid deployment force.

UN AMBASSADOR SUBMITS REPORT TO NONALINED

FL211353 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Feb 80 FL

[Text] The nonalined countries movement held a plenary session yesterday, Wednesday, at the United Nations to examine the decisions adopted by the heads of state at the sixth summit which the movement must implement immediately. It was learned that Cuban Ambassador Raul Roa Kouri, chairman of the nonalined countries coordinating bureau at the United Nations, had presented to the plenum the decisions of the heads of state with respect to Palestine, Zimbabwe and the friend of solidarity with southern Africa and Namibia.

ADN REPORTS ON GDR MINISTER KROLIKOWSKI'S VISIT

LD220940 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1000 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] Havana--Herbert Krolikowski, GDR first deputy foreign minister, has been received in Havana for friendly talks by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers, and by Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca. The politicians held an exchange of views on the current international situation and on strengthening bilateral relations.

The two sides stressed during the talks that they regard the preservation of peace and guaranteeing the security of the peoples as the most important goal. Their states would continue in future to do everything possible to help end the arms race and limit arms as the key issues in consolidating peace.

During the talks it was stated that, in view of the exacerbation of the international situation, the two countries would do everything possible to end the arms race and limit arms. A return to the cold war had to be prevented. They stressed that there was no reasonable alternative to the policy of peaceful coexistence.

Much attention was also paid to the friendly relations and close cooperation between the GDR and Cuba. They agreed in expressing their certainty that these would continue to develop successfully.

GUYANA ENVOY CONDEMNS BLOCKADE, HAILS RELATIONS

FL220147 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Feb 80 FL

[Text] Guyanese Ambassador to Cuba Cecil Pilgrim has held a press conference in Havana on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

We strongly condemn the economic and political blockade imposed against Cuba, the diplomat said after stressing the good relations between his country and ours. He then explained that since 23 February 1970 there have been many transformations in Guyana, primarily in the economic life, under the direction of the People's National Congress. He said that in the past the big transnational companies controlled Guyana's natural resources, such as bauxite and sugar. However, now it is the people who are exploiting the resources.

Pilgrim said the sacrifices and successes over the past 10 years have prepared the Guyanese people for the new decade in which farm production will play a greater role and new mining and industrial development projects will be undertaken. Ambassador Cecil Pilgrim announced that a new Guyanese constitution will go into force soon.

FAR MARKS SOVIET ARMED FORCES ANNIVERSARY

FL220135 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Feb 80 FL

[Text] Div Gen Senen Casas, vice minister-chief of the general staff of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) and Lt Gen Sergey Krivoplyasov, chief of the Soviet military specialists in our country, this afternoon presided over the FAR's main commemoration of the 62d anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Lt Gen Sergey Krivoplyasov outlined the history of the Soviet Armed Forces since they were formed by the great Lenin until today when they are the bulwarks of peace and socialism.

For his part, Div Gen Francisco Cabrera, vice minister-chief of the Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force, DAAFAR, referred to the internationalist tradition of the Soviet Armed Forces and conveyed to its military specialists greetings from Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, FAR Minister Raul Castro and our party.

CIVIL DEFENSE EXERCISE CONDUCTED IN CAMAGUEY

FL181851 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Feb 80 FL

[Text] A civil defense exercise has been conducted in the city of Camaguey with satisfactory results. (Jose Fabracero) has more details from Camaguey:

[Begin (Fabracero) recording] The evaluation of the exercise was announced yesterday at a meeting marking the conclusion of the exercise. At that meeting, 1st Lt (Jesus Echavarria), chief of the civil defense general staff in the province, on behalf of the Camaguey party and government congratulated all who in one way or another participated in the exercise.

The exercise was aimed at determining the preparedness and readiness of civil defense units by giving specialized groups and brigades the opportunity to carry out their operations in accordance with the established strategy. The operation consisted of a simulated surprise air attack against the economic installations of the city of Camaguey and the adoption of immediate actions to protect the population. The exercise included the mobilization of civil defense forces, assembly and evacuation of personnel, radioactivity decontamination, rescue work, medical care, emergency repair of damage and firefighting, among others.

Juan Antonio Bravo Mendez, member of the party provincial bureau and president of the people's government assembly in Camaguey, in his remarks summarizing the exercise emphasized the exemplary discipline and cooperation of the people during the exercise. The president of the provincial government stressed the importance of constantly evaluating combat preparedness. He also emphasized the noteworthy experience gained from the exercise in which all the proposed objectives were attained. The report from Rosa Maria Moros [as heard] adds that certificates were presented at the meeting to the members of the civil defense who displayed an outstanding attitude during the exercise and that public recognition was given to the support given by many agencies and mass organizations, especially the committees for the defense of the revolution, during the exercise. [end recording]

MATANZAS CITY HOLDS CDR PLENUM ON VIGILANCE

FL211249 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Feb 80 FL

[Text] Julian Rizo Alvarez, first party secretary in Matanzas Province and Armando Acosta, national coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], both members of the PCC Central Committee, have chaired a CDR provincial plenary session on vigilance held at the Atenas Theater in the city of Matanzas.

Numerous CDR members made speeches at the plenum, expressing their support for redoubling vigilance and eradicating all forms of antisocial and criminal manifestations. In his closing remarks, Armando Acosta called for relentlessly fighting against those who try to cause harm to society and revolutionary institutions. He also added that the CDR is a pillar for the development of tasks ordered by the party, whether political, economic or social causes.

CARICOM CONCERNED WITH FOREIGN VESSELS IN CARIBBEAN

FL202105 Port of Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 15 Feb 80 p 11 FL

[Text] St. George's Thurs:--The recently concluded Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Law of the Sea Conference viewed with serious concern the intrusion into Caribbean waters of foreign fishing vessels, says the Grenada Government.

The conference which was held in St. Kitts from February 1 to 2 made certain recommendations to CARICOM foreign ministers, in the community on this matter, it added.

Grenada's delegate to the meeting, Ashley Taylor, legal adviser in the Ministry of External Affairs, was quoting the statement as saying that the question of who exploits the resources of the sea is a very important one for Grenada, "as this country is totally surrounded by water and has rich fishing resources."

Within recent times many foreign fishing fleets, especially Japanese, have been exploiting the fish resources of the Caribbean waters, the release noted.--(CANA)

JAMAICA

MINISTERS LEAVE ON MISSIONS DEALING WITH ECONOMY

FL181045 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 13 Feb 80 p 13 FL

[Text] Two senior ministers have left the island on missions connected with the present state of Jamaica's economy.

Deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Hon. P.J. Patterson, is now in Washington where he is having talks with U.S. Government officials.

An official report said Mr. Patterson is meeting U.S. Secretary of State Mr. Cyrus Vance and other U.S. officials "to discuss matters of a bi-lateral nature as well as various international issues."

Finance Minister, the Hon. Eric Bell, left yesterday for Mexico to hold discussions with Mexican officials on relations between that country and Jamaica, particularly in the economic field.

His visit is a follow-up to that paid to Mexico last week by the prime minister, the Hon. Michael Manley, when he had talks with the Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo.

Mr. Manley had been accompanied on that visit by Mr. Patterson and by Mining Minister the Hon. Horace Clarke.

BALANCE OF PAYMENT DEFICIT DOUBLES IN 1979

FL211852 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 21 Feb 80 FL

[Text] Preliminary figures released by the Bank of Jamaica show that Jamaica's balance of payment deficit doubled for the period of January to July last year compared to the corresponding period the previous year.

According to figures released in the monthly review for October the overall deficit for January to July last year stood at 88.8 million dollars. The review also said preliminary figures indicated that the gross national debt after end of October stood at over 3,000 million dollars and Jamaica's net foreign assets stood at minus 733.8 million dollars.

The Bank of Jamaica's net foreign position worsened by 22.1 million dollars because of drawings on the International Monetary Fund's supplementary financing facilities. This, the review said, resulted in an increase of 16.5 million dollars in the bank's foreign liabilities while its foreign assets declined by 5.6 million dollars due to foreign payments and the servicing of government foreign debt. The review also noted that there are declines in the total assets and liabilities of commercial banks, merchant banks, and trust companies.

MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION FORESEES MORE SHUTDOWNS

FL201700 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 14 Feb 80 p 1 FL

[Excerpts] Thirty-three manufacturing concerns with 1,245 employees have already been closed and it is now expected that 202 companies will shut down soon, for at least a short time, even if the government now decides to grant import licences immediately.

Outlining what he said was a grim situation, Jamaica Manufacturers' Association President Winston Mahfood told the monthly meeting of directors yesterday that the lead time between ordering and the receipt of the raw materials would make the shutdowns imperative.

He said the situation was further aggravated by the fact that no further credit was being extended to manufacturers because of the very substantial amount now owed to overseas suppliers and a large part of the debt is overdue. The amount acknowledged by the Bank of Jamaica is such arrears was (US)$55 to (US)$60 million.

Mr. Mahfood said that neither the Bank of Jamaica nor anyone else was able to say when funds would become available to start paying off this arrears, so even if licences were issued they "would be worthless, because suppliers have advised that they are no longer prepared to extend credit, pending payment on amounts which are now overdue."

Reporting on a recent JMA survey, Mr. Mahfood said that of the 235 companies responding: 33 companies with 1,245 employees were now closed; 90 companies with 7,467 employees will be unable to stay in production beyond this month; 82 companies with 7,221 workers will close next month; and 30 with 2,316 workers cannot go on beyond May.

He said these 235 companies needed raw materials and spare parts in the sum of (US)$66 million if they are to maintain production and employment at existing levels through June.

The 235 companies surveyed had a total workforce of 18,249 out of an overall employment establishment of about 75,000 for the entire manufacturing sector.

Mr. Mahfood said that the manufacturing sector was now calling upon the government to provide decisive and responsible leadership by telling the nation the true position relating to the present state of the economy, and what plans and programmes it had to take the country out of the critical period leading up to the holding of elections.

ST VINCENT

STATE OF EMERGENCY TO REMAIN IN EFFECT

FL201705 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Feb 80 p 3 FL

[Text] Kingston, Feb. 14 (CANA)--The state of emergency in St. Vincent will continue as long as it is necessary in public's interest, Minister of Home Affairs Hudson Tannis told parliament today.

The state of emergency was introduced on December 7 when dissidents on the ward island Union staged an abortive rebellion.

Mr. Tannis was today answering a question from leader of the opposition Calder Williams who asked the minister to explain why the state of emergency was still in force in spite of 'widespread public dissatisfaction at its continued imposition'.

Mr. Tannis said he was not aware of any widespread public dissatisfaction as a result of the continuation of the state of emergency, but said it would not be continued for any period longer than was necessary in the interest of public safety.

Opposition leader Calder Williams has called on government to lift the two-and-a-half-month-long state of emergency, charging that its continued imposition was affecting the country's economy and was an infringement upon peoples democratic rights and freedoms.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

GUERRILLAS TRAINING IN GRENADA DEBATED

FL202035 Port of Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 16 Feb 80 p 1 FL

[Text] Rep. Raffique Shah (opp. Siparia) claimed in parliament yesterday that a question he had posed to Senator John Donaldson, minister of national security and minister of external affairs was not answered.

As a result he withdrew a second question and said he did not intend to ask any questions in the house again.

Rep. Shah had asked the minister to state whether his ministry had information "that several citizens of Trinidad and Tobago have received military training in guerrilla and terrorist tactics in the state of Grenada."

The question went on: "Could the minister further state if the above is in the affirmative, the number and/or names of such treacherous, dangerous citizens?"

Senator Donaldson replied: "The situation is being kept under review and such further statements will be made as may be necessary."

The second question which Rep. Shah withdrew as to the minister of finance and related to housing land for tenants of Caroni and Forbes park.